

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

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R 081415Z DEC 76

FM AMCONSUL MUNICH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7839

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GW

SUBJECT: NEWSPAPER COLUMN SPECULATES ON CSU DEFECTIONS TO CDU

1. DECEMBER 8 EDITION OF "MUENCHNER MERKUR" CARRIES COLUMN ON BAVARIAN LANDTAG ACTIVITIES WHICH SPECULATES ON WHICH CSU POLITICIANS WOULD BE MOST LIKELY TO DEFECT TO CDU.

2. COLUMN IDENTIFIES (BAVARIAN) ECONOMICS MINISTER JAUMANN, MIN INTERIOR MERK, MIN CULTURE MAIER, MIN FEDERAL AFFAIRS HEUBL AND STATE SECRETARY (INTERIOR) AND MUNICH CSU CHIEF KIESL AS POTENTIAL LEADERS OF A CDU "LANDESVERBAND" IN BAVARIA. COLUMN CLAIMS THAT ONE THIRD OF CSU LANDTAG DEPUTIES (I.E. 44 DEPUTIES) COULD POTENTIALLY DEFECT TO CDU, AND IDENTIFIES 26 BY NAME. ONLY INFLUENTIAL NAMES ON LIST ARE JAUMANN, MERK HEUBL AND KIESL.

3. COMMENT: CONGEN BELIEVES COLUMN IS BASED LARGELY, IF NOT RPT NOT WHOLLY, ON SPECULATION. AUTHOR SEEMS TO HAVE LISTED CSU POLITICIANS KNOWN TO HAVE RESERVATIONS OR ACTIVE DISLIKE TOWARD STRAUSS. IN ABSENCE OF MUCH HARDER INFORMATION ON CSU

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"DEFECTIONS," CONGEN BELIEVES COLUMN SHOULD BE REGARDED AS

GOSSIP.
BETTS

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